

35.(New) The method of claim 32 further comprising the step of disposing a treatment agent on the stent.

36.(New) The method of claim 32 wherein at least some of the openings are bounded at a proximal end by a first serpentine segment and at a distal end by a second serpentine segment.

37.(New) The method of claim 36 wherein the openings which are bounded at a proximal end by a first serpentine segment and at a distal end by a second serpentine segment include a first side wall and a second side wall extending between and connecting the first and second serpentine segments.

38.(New) The method of claim 37 wherein the first and second side walls are non-parallel to the longitudinal axis of the stent.

39.(New) The method of claim 32 wherein at least some of the openings are bounded at a proximal end by a first serpentine segment and at a distal end by a second serpentine segment, the first and second serpentine segments having different physical characteristics.

40.(New) The method of claim 32 wherein at least some of the openings are bounded at a proximal end by a first serpentine segment made of a first metal and at a distal end by a second serpentine segment made of a second metal different from the first metal.

41.(New) A stent formed in accordance with the method of claim 32.

REMARKS

This Preliminary Amendment is submitted as part of a continuation application. The specification has been amended by replacing the Cross-Reference section with an amended Cross-Reference in which reference is made to the parent and grandparent applications.

Also, claims 1-22 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer and new claims 23-42 have been added.

Support for the new claims is as follows:

Claim Support

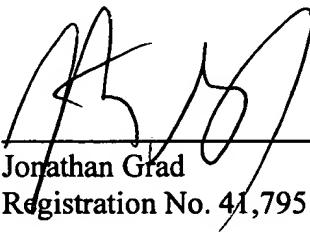
23	Claim 6 as originally filed, specification page 4, lines 21-23, page 5, lines 4-5, Fig. 5;
24, 25	page 6, lines 16-20, Fig. 5;
26.	page 6, lines 6-7;
27, 28. Fig. 5;	
29	Fig. 1a;
30, 31	Fig. 5;
32	Claim 6 as originally filed, specification page 4, lines 21-23, page 5, lines 4-5, Fig. 5;
33,34	page 6, lines 16-20, Fig. 5;
35	page 6, lines 6-7;
36-39	Fig. 5;
40	page 6, lines 16-20, Fig. 5; and
41	Fig. 5.

No new matter has been added by any of the amendments.

Respectfully submitted,

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On page 1, lines 4-6 the application has been amended as follows:

This application is a Continuation of U.S. Application 09/420,094 filed October 18, 1999 which is a Continuation of US Application 08/940,696 filed September 30, 1997, the contents of which are incorporated herein in their entirety by reference.

Claims 1-22 have been canceled without prejudice. New claims 23-42 have been added.

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